

Wake ElectriConnection

For members of Wake Electric Membership Corporation



"The power to make a difference"

JULY 2014

Summer Energy Efficiency: Myth vs. Fact

Myth: When I'm not home, keeping my air conditioner at a lower temperature throughout the day means it doesn't have to run harder to cool my home when I return.

Fact: To save energy, set your thermostat to a higher temperature during the day, and lower it when you return home.

Myth: Closing vents on my central air conditioning system will boost efficiency.

Fact: Closing vents can cause the compressor to cycle too frequently and the heat pump to overload. You'll also use more energy.

Myth: Bigger is always better when it comes to cooling equipment.

Fact: Too often, cooling equipment isn't sized properly and leads to higher electric bills. A unit that's too large for your home will not cool evenly and might produce higher humidity indoors.



Independence Day
HOLIDAY CLOSING

Wake Electric's offices will be closed on Friday, July 4, in honor of Independence Day. For emergencies, please contact us at (919) 863-6300 or 1-800-474-6300.

Data-driven success at Wake Electric

The Obama administration, as part of its annual spring Energy Datapalooza event, recognized Wake Electric for innovation in providing its members with an online data analysis tool that allows consumers to review their own energy use to reduce costs, save energy and protect the environment.

The tool, part of the Administration's "Green Button Initiative," was launched nationally in 2012 and is offered by 48 utilities and electricity suppliers. Wake Electric was the first utility in North Carolina to offer the Green Button data interface.

"Wake Electric is proud of the White House's acknowledgment of our success in using secure, sophisticated technology to directly assist our members," said Jim



Mangum, general manager and CEO of Wake Electric. "Green Button is one of many services we offer our members to help them make informed choices in order to put more money in their pocket."

Wake Electric's Green Button securely links participating members to a summary of their electricity usage over the past 13 months, which that member can then share with friends and neighbors to compare usage (www.wemc.com/smarthub). Members also can use a third-party application (app) that provides graphs and tools to help find ways to save energy and lower their electric bills. They also can share the data with other companies, like solar panel contractors or appliance vendors, allowing those energy experts to help members explore the most energy-efficient options.

For more information about the national Green Button Initiative, go to <http://greenbuttondata.org>.



**Wake Electric
Membership Corporation**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Call to report outages: 919.863.6499 or 800.743.3155

Regular office hours: M-F, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Telephone hours: M-F, 7 a.m.-6 p.m., 863.6300 or 800.474.6300

Underground locating service: Call 811

Dedicated pay-by-phone number: 866.999.4593

How State Tax Law Changes Will Impact Your Electric Bill

Changes to the state tax law enacted by the General Assembly and Governor Pat McCrory to take effect in July will affect taxes paid by families, individuals and businesses, which includes Wake Electric as well.

FRANCHISE TAX

Currently, Wake Electric pays the state a franchise tax of 3.22 percent on electricity sales. Because the franchise tax is a cost of doing business, it is incorporated into your electric bill each month even though there is not a specific line item for it displaying on the bill. What does appear on your power bill as a line item is the 3 percent state sales tax.

The new legislation eliminates the franchise tax on electric utilities, including co-ops, and increases the sales tax on electricity to 7 percent, effective July 1, 2014. By eliminating the franchise tax expense, Wake Electric members will see a decrease in kWh cost across-the-board for all electric rates with bills starting in July.

FACILITIES CHARGE CHANGES

At the same time, a standard residential account holder will experience an increase in the facilities charge from \$10 to \$12 effective with July billing. Yet, the overall cost of service will largely remain unchanged with the decrease in kWh noted above for a typical member using 1,400 kWh. Likewise, a single-phase small general service account will also experience an increase in facility charge from \$15 to \$17. With this increase in facility charge coupled with a reduction in kWh, **most accounts will experience no change in the amount paid to Wake Electric as a result of the tax law changes being implemented.**

The facility charge is designed

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA YOUTH TOUR ALUMNI CELEBRATION

1 9 6 7 — 2 0 1 4



Saturday
08.09.14

Drop in any time from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Raleigh
CONVENTION CENTER
500 S Salisbury St, Raleigh, NC

FOOD **ATTIRE**
Tailgate fare **Youth Tour casual**

\$20 **\$50**
INDIVIDUAL FAMILY

TO REGISTER

<http://register.ncemcs.com>

Questions about registration contact
Donna Cavanaugh

donna.cavanaugh@ncemcs.com
919-645-2429 or 800-662-8835, Ext.2429



ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP

Replacing your conventional power strips with advanced power strips (APS) can help reduce the electricity wasted when electronic devices are idle. These power strips are a convenient and low-cost way to save.

Source: Department of Energy

to recover the Cooperative's member-related costs that vary with the connecting and providing of service. These expenses include the operation and maintenance of the electric distribution system, meter

reading and billing and customer service activities.

Please contact us at 919.863.6300 or 800.474.6300 should you have questions related to these rate modifications.

Wake Electric's 'Give Us an A' Program Rewards \$25 VISA Gift Cards to High-Achieving Students

Wake Electric recently awarded 40 \$25 Visa gift cards to area students who received at least one "A" (or its equivalent) on their report cards through the co-op's "Give Us an A" program. This program encourages academic achievement. These awards are part of a drawing held three times a year.

Students in any grade in Durham, Franklin, Granville, Johnston, Nash, Vance and Wake counties are eligible to apply.

Funding for the "Give Us an A" program is made possible by Wake Electric members through the Operation RoundUp program. Members who sign up to participate in the Operation RoundUp program elect to have their monthly electric bill rounded up to the next whole dollar. These pennies collectively add up to major dollars for community programs.

The deadline for the next drawing is September 22, 2014 by 5 p.m.

NOTE: Because each school district may have a different time for issuing report cards, if a student's entry misses one deadline, the entry will automatically be included in the next drawing.

To enter, students should include:

- ★ A copy of the report card with any "A"s highlighted
- ★ Parents' or guardians' names (if applicable)
- ★ Home address
- ★ Email address that is checked regularly
- ★ School attending
- ★ Telephone number

For more information on Wake Electric's "Give Us an A" program, go to www.wemc.com/giveusana.aspx.



RECENT "GIVE US AN A" WINNERS

Name	School	County
Madison Bademian	Franklin Academy	Wake County
Maxwell Bademian	Franklin Academy	Wake County
Jacob Barnhill	Zebulon Middle School	Wake County
Virginia Barnhill	Rolesville High School	Wake County
Tyler Bendl	Heritage High School	Wake County
Aislinn-Anne Brown	River Dell Elementary School	Johnston County
Briyanna Brown	Sanford Creek Elementary School	Wake County
Kelsey Bunn	Rolesville Middle School	Wake County
Christopher Butulis	North Forest Pines Drive Elementary School	Wake County
Jessica Connelly	Rolesville Middle School	Wake County
Whitley Creech	Zebulon Middle School	Wake County
Rachel Davis	Wakefield Middle School	Wake County
Allison Dodge	Wakefield High School	Wake County
Theresa Evangelista	Franklin Academy	Wake County
Briana Flamion	Butner-Stem Middle School	Granville County
Devin Fussa	Heritage High School	Wake County
Shannon Hall	Jones Dairy Elementary	Wake County
Trevor Hamilton	Louisburg High School	Franklin County
Amy Hartt	Harris Creek Elementary	Wake County
Edward Isabella	Franklinton High School	Franklin County
Kailey Hunt	Bunn High School	Franklin County
Khrystian Love	Walnut Creek Elementary School	Wake County
Cameron Middleton	North Raleigh Christian Academy	Wake County
Caira Mitchell	Walnut Creek Elementary School	Wake County
Nicholas Payne	Youngsville Elementary School	Franklin County
Jackson Puckett	Franklin Academy	Wake County
Kayla Resco	Wake Forest High School	Wake County
Phoebe Rutter	G.C. Hawley Middle School	Granville County
Andrew Sample	Franklinton High School	Franklin County
Stephanie Sample	Franklinton High School	Franklin County
Matthew Sattler	Heritage High School	Wake County
Joshua Schulz	Franklin Academy	Wake County
Victoria Smith	Rolesville Middle School	Wake County
Matthew Stevens	Wake Forest High School	Wake County
Dillon Sykora	Franklinton High School	Franklin County
Bryan Trawick	Heritage High School	Wake County
Nicolas Valle	Walnut Creek Elementary	Wake County
Mason Van Viegen	Thales Academy	Wake County
Miles Van Viegen	Thales Academy	Wake County
Lawrence Walsh	Wake Forest High School	Wake County



Think lightning can't get into your house and ...

- ⚡ **Damage your computer?**
- ⚡ **Ruin your dimmer switches?**
- ⚡ **Harm your flat-screen TV?**

Think again.

***Protect Your Appliances—
Get Surge Protection Today!***

Today's homes have more appliances and electronics than ever before. Lightning is a dangerous source of raw electricity that can destroy those appliances and electrical equipment in a flash.

Triangle Services Group (TSG) offers Surge Protection that can save your investments by helping to prevent destructive lightning surges from entering your home.

Our surge protection for your whole house includes:

- ⚡ Leased equipment (1 point of entry PEMCO Meter Base Whole House Surge Arrestor)
- ⚡ Cost of only \$5.95 per month added to your electric bill
- ⚡ \$50 installation fee

Are you ready to sign up and start protecting your home now? Call 919.863.6306 or email info@wemc.com.



Teachers who Apply for Bright Ideas Grant by Aug. 15 will be entered into Gift Card Drawing

The deadline to submit Bright Ideas grant applications for the 2014–2015 school year is September 15. But teachers who submit their applications by the early bird deadline on August 15 will be entered in a drawing to win one of five \$100 Visa gift cards.

Local teachers can apply for grants of up to \$3,000 through the program, sponsored by Wake Electric.

Bright Ideas strives to improve education in our state's classrooms by awarding grants to public school teachers in grades K–12 for innovative, classroom-based projects that would not otherwise be funded.

To learn more and/or start an online application, visit www.ncbrightideas.com or www.wemc.com/brightideas.aspx.

CLASSROOM TECH GRANTS AVAILABLE

Local teachers can also apply for a Classroom Technology grant, also due on September 15. Visit www.wemc.com/classawards2.aspx for more information.

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Wake Forest, NC 27588, www.wemc.com

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